In Brief

Calls for Papers

Margaret Drabble Anthology

Lorna Irvine and Ann Rayson are soliciting articles for a booklength anthology on the fiction of the British novelist, Margaret Drabble. Special consideration will be given to psychological studies. Articles should not exceed twenty typed, double-spaced pages. Send submissions by July 1, 1979 to both: Ann Rayson / Department of English / University of Hawaii at Manoa / Honolulu, HA 96822 *and* Lorna Irvine / English Department / George Mason University / Fairfax, VA 22030.

Lesbian History

FRONTIERS is soliciting articles for our upcoming fall issue on lesbian history. We will consider manuscripts on all aspects of the lesbian experience through time. Manuscripts may be accompanied by illustrations and/or photographs; they should not be longer than twenty pages. We are also interested in articles on the difficulties of researching lesbian history; the obstacles to teaching lesbian history; and discussions on the current theoretical and methodological debates. Our guest Consulting Editor for this issue is Judith Schwarz, whose article on Katharine Bates and Katharine Coman appears in this issue, and whose book, "Close Friends and Devoted Companions" is forthcoming. *Deadline* for submission of articles is July 31, 1979. Please send two copies of the manuscript to: FRONTIERS/Women Studies/University of Colorado / Boulder, CO 80309.

Literature and Film

Short papers are solicited for a seminar for the Florida State University Comparative Literature Circle's Fifth Annual Conference on Literature and Film. The Conference will take place in Tallahassee, January 24-26, 1980; the topic is "Fearful Symmetry: Doubles and Doubling in Literature and Film." The proposed seminar theme will be mothers and daughters, encompassing mother surrogates, sisters, and sister-like relationships. Send abstracts of proposed papers by September 1, to: Catherine Ferguson / Department of French / Wilson College / Chambersburg, PA 17201.

Conferences

The Second Sex

The New York Institute for the Humanities is commemorating the thirtieth anniversary of the publication of Simone de Beauvoir's *The Second Sex* with an international conference to focus attention once again on the importance of its statement and to honor it as a vital part of the theoretical tradition which sustains the efforts towards women's liberation. The conference will be held September 27-29, 1979 in New York City. Send requests for pre-registration forms and information to: Jessica Benjamin / The New York Institute for the Humanities at New York University / 19 University Place / New York, NY 10003.

Writing Conference / Retreat

"Rites of Passage: Birth, Death, and Rebirth" is the overall theme of the seventh Women's Writing Conference / Retreat sponsored by the International Women's Writing Guild. It will be held at Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, New York, July 27-August 3, 1979. The conference/retreat is open to all women regardless of background or field of interest. For further information write to: Hannelore Hahn, Executive Director / IWWG / Box 810 / Gracie Station / New York, NY 10028.

Public and Private Spheres

The McGill University Committee for Teaching and Research on Women is planning a conference on "The Redefinition of the Public and Private Spheres" to be held at McGill University in the autumn of 1979. Topics include alternative lifestyles, child care innovations, housework, equal opportunity provisions in the workplace, the role of unions with regard to women, sexual harassment at work, health and work, and speculation from science fiction on future public and private roles for both sexes. For further information contact the committee at: McGill University / Room 536 — F. Cyril James Building / 845 Sherbrooke Street W. / Montreal, Quebec H3A 2T5, Canada.

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Now Available

Special Feminist Issue

New German Critique, an independent, leftist, interdisciplinary journal of German Studies, has published a Special Feminist Issue (No. 13, Winter 1978). Articles include several contributions to feminist theory, information and reports on the West German women's movement, and translations from East and West German feminist fiction. Copies are available from: *New German Critique* / Box 413 / German Department / University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee / Milwaukee, WI 53201.

Women's Audio Exchange

Women's Audio Exchange, organized to distribute recordings for, by, and about women, has put out a catalog containing 200 titles of LPs and cassettes of women's literature and women in the arts. Poetry, prose, speeches, interviews, letters, music, and children's recordings are listed. The catalog is available through: Natalie Slohm Associates Inc. / The Women's Audio Exchange Dept. / 49 West Main Street / Cambridge, NY 12816.

Funding Proposal Critiques

The Women's Action Alliance has formed a new Proposal Critique Service to give professional help in grant proposal writing to women's groups across the country. Groups may send their proposals to the Alliance, which will submit them to volunteers from Women and Foundations / Corporate Philanthropy, a national group of professional foundation staff members. There is a $5.00 fee for postage and handling. Interested groups should write to: Proposal Critique Service / Women's Action Alliance, Inc. / 370 Lexington Avenue / New York, NY 10017.

Miscellaneous

Our Mothers' Daughters

Judith Pildes-Arcana's book, *Our Mothers' Daughters,* will be published this spring by Shameless Hussy Press. The first chapter of the book appeared in FRONTIERS, Vol. III, No. 2 (Summer 1978), our special issue on "Mothers and Daughters."

Lesbian Photography Drive

Lesbian Herstory Archives announces the start of a National Lesbian Photography Drive. To end the legacy of lost faces, the archive is asking Lesbians across the country to send photographs of themselves, friends, children, homes, pets, and activities. For further information contact: Joan Nestle or Deborah Edel / Lesbian Herstory Archives / P.O. Box 1258 / New York, NY 10001.

Encyclopedia of Women

Women's studies teachers and librarians should be aware of certain facts regarding a publishing project known as the *Encyclopedia of Women.* This publication was originally offered for sale in 1975 by Publishing Center, Inc. of 560 Cook Road, Detroit, MI 48236. According to a brochure issued by Publishing Center, Inc., the *Encyclopedia* was to be complete in eighteen volumes, and was to be "the best dictionary of facts on women's history ever published." The work was to cost $720 on delivery, or $648 prepaid. Prominently displayed in the brochure was a "Price Stabilization Guarantee" assuring subscribers of delivery at the advertised price, despite any future increases in production costs. The brochure also contained a photograph of bound volumes, and an announcement that, "The Volumes will be sent to you as they come off press beginning Fall 1975, with subsequent volumes sent at bimonthly intervals."

Purchasers of the *Encyclopedia* have, however, received not eighteen bound volumes but four plastic ring binders, empty except for a seventy-six-page chronology of women in world history. These binders have been received not from Publishing Center, Inc., but from New Women Press, 610 South Venice Boulevard, Box 4067, Venice, CA 90291. New Women Press has also been the source of November 1978 invoices stating that the eighteen-volume *Encyclopedia* is, "Now complete in thirty-four volumes," and inviting subscribers to, "Upgrade your order" by remitting the difference between the original purchase price of $648 or $720 and the new price of $1,020.

Publishing Center, Inc., and seven other firms with the same address or post office box number, and sometimes with the same name, appear on a list of firms against which the Committee on Relations with Publishers and Dealers of the American Association of Law Libraries issued a warning in the fall of 1977. The note of caution stated: "There is a rapidly mushrooming subset of publishers in these fields whose offerings are suspect — in some cases nonexistent — and whose business practices are often actionable. They specialize in advertising the publication of reference works, usually multi-volume sets, offering generous prepublication discounts and then failing to deliver. They tend to change names and addresses frequently, and to make refunds only under pressure of legal action." New Women Press and Publishing Center, Inc., plus eleven other versions of the Detroit firm, also appear on a similar list circulated at the summer 1978 meetings of the American Library Association.

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Our continuing purpose is to present our readers with interesting and accessible articles which will provoke thought and discussion.

Each issue of FRONTIERS contains a cluster of articles dealing with the same subject from different perspectives, and other articles on a variety of topics. In past issues we have looked at problems women encounter in the workplace; we have explored the politics of reproduction; we have examined feminist psychotherapy; we have dealt with women as victims; and we have shared some fantasies and visions of a feminist future.

We have also presented a landmark issue on Women's Oral History. This Special Issue (Volume II, No. 2) contains an overview of women's oral history and has become a standard resource in this new field. Join us in reliving vivid oral histories of women from the 1800's to the 1960's—grandmothers, immigrants and suffrage leaders—in settings from San Francisco to Pittsburgh, Alberta to Africa. This special issue also contains articles on methodology, and a Resource Guide with oral history interview outlines, project descriptions, and a selected bibliography.

During this past year, FRONTIERS has presented issues on "Playing Our Own Game: Women and Athletics" (Volume III, No. 1), a special issue devoted entirely to the theme of "Mothers and Daughters" (Volume III, No. 2), and an issue which explores the history of "Women as Verbal Artists" (Volume III, No. 3).

Upcoming issues will have clustered articles on such topics as "Equal Opportunity Addiction: Women, Alcohol, and Drugs"; Lesbian History; and La Chicana in the Southwest.

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